

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/051,703

Applicant(s)

VOLSTORF, JAMES R.

Examiner

John B. Vigushin

Art Unit

2827

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's Amendment filed 06 August 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)          |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____             |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____  | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                  |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
|  | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

John B. Vigushin  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2827

**Notice of Allowability**

1. The present Office Action is responsive to Applicant's amended Response filed August 06, 2003. The Examiner acknowledges the replacement of the originally filed Abstract with a new Abstract, complying with the requirement that the Abstract be less than 150 words in length, and further acknowledges the amendments to Claims 1-3, 5, 19 and 20, and the addition of new Claims 21-23. Accordingly, Claims 1-23 are now pending in the instant amended Application.

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended to correct a minor informality in Claim 22 as follows:

**In Claim 22, line 4 of section B): "a" has been changed to --and--.**

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-23 have been allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to Claims 1-18, patentability resides in *a plurality of electrical paths through the overlaying pairs of via holes and through electrically conductive pads mounted on*

*the first and second faces of the midplane printed circuit board*, in combination with the other limitations of base Claim 1.

As to Claim 19, patentability resides in *each via hole in each of the pairs of via holes being fixed on an axis perpendicular to an axis that bisects the angle of misalignment of the first and second printed circuit boards*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

As to Claim 20, patentability resides in *each via hole in each of the second face pairs of via holes being fixed on an axis that bisects the angle of misalignment of the first and second printed circuit boards*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

As to Claim 21, patentability resides in *each via hole in each of the pairs of via holes being fixed on an axis that bisects the angle of misalignment of the first and second printed circuit boards*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

As to Claim 22, patentability resides in *each via hole in each of the pairs of via holes being fixed on an axis perpendicular to an axis that bisects the angle of misalignment of the first and second printed circuit boards*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

As to Claim 23, patentability resides in a *plurality of conductive surface mount pads mounted on the first and second faces of the midplane PCB*, each of the *conductive surface mount pads connecting: 1) one of the electrical connections on the first PCB to one of the via holes on the first face of the midplane PCB, and 2) one of the*

*electrical connections on the second PCB to one of the via holes on the second face of the midplane PCB*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Vigushin whose telephone number is 703-308-1205. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM Mo-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on 703-308-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-308-7382.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.



John B. Vigushin  
Primary Examiner  
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